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EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

Issued Monthly by the EXTENSION SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

In This Issue

SOME answers to the question *Where Do We Go From Here?* are given by H. R. Tolley, Administrator of the A. A. A. He says that unless we stop exploiting our natural resources we shall not have the capacity to produce enough food and feed for our own use, and warns that the real threat of scarcity to consumers is the threat of eroded and depleted land.

• • •

WHAT is better than a good book to read when a woman has a few leisure minutes to get her mind away from her household duties? Through the efforts of library commissions, the people themselves, and extension agents, books on travel, fiction, science, poetry, and biography are now available for farm people in many States. The article entitled "Agents Aid Rural Communities to Provide Library Facilities" tells how extension work is bringing literature to the farm home.

• • •

SHALL we take the attitude that "Nature cures while man endures" or shall we hasten the cure of the ailments of our land, crops, and livestock by doing our part? County Agent Chester B. Als-pach, of Licking County, Ohio, tells us what he thinks in his story about Nature's Answers to Farm Problems. He concedes that Nature does solve problems too baffling for the scientifically inclined human mind, but he believes that Nature's so-called solutions are frequently insufficient, incomplete, and too slow to render the greatest satisfaction to the human race.

• • •

WHAT to do with the land taken out of cotton production was a question that Jasper County, S. C., farmers had to solve. County Agent J. P. Graham interested himself in their problem and after studying conditions suggested the growing of garden and truck crops, which netted approxi-

mately \$50,000 in income. The story is told in *Supervised Truck Growing Replaces Lost Cotton Income*.

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WHEN insect pests invade Kansas they find an army of women leaders, men leaders, and 4-H club leaders ready to fight them. Dr. E. G. Kelly, insect-control specialist of the Kansas Extension Service, directs their training. *Insect Hordes Retreat* explains how this plan works.

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On The Calendar

Texas Centennial Central Exposition, Dallas, Tex., June 6-November 29.

Poultry Industries Exposition, New York, N. Y., November 10-14.

Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Houston, Tex., November 16-18.

National Club Congress, Chicago, Ill., November 27-December 5.

International Livestock Exposition, Chicago, Ill., November 28-December 5.

Convention of California Cattlemen's Association, San Francisco, Calif., December 11-12.

Great Western Livestock Show, Los Angeles, Calif., December 14-19.

Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg, Pa., January 18-22, 1937.

Sixty-first Annual Convention Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, Fort Worth, Tex., March 16-18, 1937.

TEXAS is out to help farm women with their clothing problems. One hundred thousand of them pass in review to belie the eyebrow archers who believe that farm women are not as well dressed as their city cousins. The article *Wardrobe Demonstration in Texas* speaks eloquently of the success of Texas home agents in clothing demonstrations.

• • •

FIFTY older boys and girls who recently organized a club in Lenoir County, N. C., promise to turn into valuable local leaders, according to *An Effective Extension Program*.

• • •

NEARLY 600 people in Indiana beat a path to the doors of 4 farmers to learn why they were so successful. Read about it in *Four Farmers Hold Open House*.

THE EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW is issued monthly by the EXTENSION SERVICE of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. The matter contained in the REVIEW is published by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business. The REVIEW seeks to supply to workers and cooperators of the Department of Agriculture engaged in extension activities, information of especial help to them in the performance of their duties, and is issued to them free by law. Others may obtain copies of the REVIEW from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 5 cents a copy, or by subscription at the rate of 50 cents a year, domestic, and 90 cents, foreign. Postage stamps will not be accepted in payment.

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Where Do We Go From Here?

H. R. TOLLEY

Administrator

Agricultural Adjustment

Administration

AGRICULTURAL adjustment is inevitable, and it will come, regardless. The question is that ancient one of how to meet it and guide it. Can we, for example, through cooperation with government prevent a recurrence of the crash of 1932? Can we lessen the shocks of such catastrophes as the drought? Can we extend the measure of crop insurance furnished by present programs? Is it feasible to store up supplies in "fat" years to be used when "lean" years come? Must we have national programs for agriculture? If they are necessary, must radical changes be made in our present approach?

The first movements for production adjustment that I recall originated in the South. Some of them took the form of veritable crusades, in which newspapers and leaders joined in urging a reduction in cotton acreage. So far as I can remember, nobody then raised the cry of scarcity economics. It seemed the part of common sense to try to grow enough cotton to supply market needs, but not enough to cause a glut that would drive prices downward. That still seems the part of common sense to me. Any other course would be, to my way of thinking, just as irrational as overeating or overdrinking.

Farmers in the South learned very early that, almost without exception, they received more for a crop of moderate size than they did for a huge crop. The 17,000,000-bale crop of 1926 brought \$200,000,000 less than the 13,000,000-bale crop of 1927; the 17,000,000-bale crop of 1931 returned the ruinously low income of \$483,000,000; the 16,000,000-bale crop of 1914 only \$600,000,000.

The complaint against early efforts to adjust cotton production was not that

"The last 3 years have not changed the economic facts which govern the distribution and consumption of commodities. Crops that pile up carry-overs to excessive proportions would beat down prices in the future just as they have done in the past", warns Howard Tolley in this provocative article on farm problems and farm policies, prepared for readers of the Extension Service Review.

they violated any holy laws. The real objection to them then was that they were not effective. Individual States were helpless in the face of problems which had no regard for State lines. Any one State might decide not to plant a stalk of cotton, and yet other States could increase their acreage enough to produce a sizable cotton crop for the United States.

A majority of the farmers of this country finally decided that they needed the

And they were preceded by the Agricultural Marketing Act, which set up the Federal Farm Board.

The Farm Board was, from the standpoint of accomplishment, a failure, but I believe it demonstrated the fallacy of half measures. The problem of surpluses consists of two problems—that of disposing of the accumulation, and the prevention of their return.

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration was equipped specifically to deal with the problem of production. It had the experience of the Farm Board as a guide to what to do, and what not to do, also.

The production-control provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act were declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court on January 6, 1936.

Within 6 years two attempts to establish national programs for agriculture had been balked. The first effort failed through its own defects. The second was ended by the Supreme Court. Yet the producers felt that the need for a national program, a program in which the Federal Government would participate, was still urgent. The result was enactment of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act on February 29, just after the production-control programs were ended by the Court.

As the A. A. A. drew upon the experience of the Farm Board in formulating its adjustment programs, it drew upon its own experiences in shaping the Agricultural Conservation program. The surpluses for the most part had passed. Even before the Court invalidated pro-

(Continued on page 156)



The real threat of scarcity to consumers is the threat of eroded and depleted land.

cooperation of the Federal Government, and that it was the duty of government to give that cooperation.

Program Based on Experience

The Agricultural Adjustment Act and its successor, the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, were the products so far as physical enactment was concerned, of only a few months. Actually, they were the product of years and years of dealing with these issues.

"The secretary of the library commission recently said, 'The self-improvement reading course has done more to extend rural reading than all we have been able to do previously.'"

Three home demonstration clubs of Reno County, Kans., use trunks of 50 books each, mostly fiction, sent from State library commissions. A charge of 3 cents is made when the book is checked out. This has created a fund for the purchase of the next library. A busy husband of one of the farm women has read 14 books, and one of the club leaders read 27 from April to October, the farmers' busy season. This library also has proved popular with the school-age youngsters. The four most popular books are *Green Light*, *Magnificent Obsession*, and *Forgive Us Our Trespasses*, by Lloyd C. Douglas, and *A Lantern in Her Hand*, by Bess Streeter Aldrich.

Through this reading exposure, the demands for books have increased, and accordingly it has become necessary to devise ways of distributing reading material to rural areas. Often libraries are started by private contributions of money and books, or with money raised by entertainments. But the continued support and maintenance of these libraries is difficult. The collections of books rotated in the community are often slow in making the rounds. Consequently this older method of sending out boxes of books from a central distributing point is being largely replaced by the more rapid delivery of book trucks that go to the home or to some central place of distribution.

A public library cannot be built near every farm home, but books from the library can be delivered directly and regularly to each rural home or vicinity. This special delivery of books is being successfully accomplished by way of book trucks operating as the "book automobile", in Minnesota; "book wagon" in Indiana; "bookmobile", in Louisiana; and the "Library of the Open Road", in New York. These libraries on wheels have a well-selected stock of books chosen by a trained librarian after obtaining suggestions from the local home demonstration agents. Special books are sometimes procured by consulting the union catalog either in the State library or at the Library of Congress. A list of technical books is furnished by the Department of Agriculture. The librarian personally distributes the books to schools, stores, filling stations, homes, or any place where she can establish a book station. Sometimes, instead of a book truck, there is a trailer which is attached to cars of volunteers who distribute the books. Today transportation by auto-



Home Demonstration Agent Bessie M. Spafford carries a supply of books in the back of her car.

mobile is the most conspicuous means of book exchange on country roads. Book cars serve not only to carry collections of books over the system but also to take the librarian on the rounds, and provide trained library service to book borrowers.

Too much cannot be said for the necessity of selecting books adapted to the tastes of the community. Texas has successfully operated book trucks for a number of years partly due no doubt to the careful selection of books by extension agents under the direction of Mrs. Maggie Barry, organization specialist, who has worked up book lists for women of different ages.

Books of a lighter vein for recreation are more in demand than technical literature. Farmers do not buy or read books to a great extent, and reading them is a habit which may be encouraged by the taking of books of local interest to their communities. Of outstanding value in this respect is South Dakota's reading project which has followed a series of studies for the past 6 years, the theme varying each year and being adapted to current interests.

In 1934 Eric County, N. Y., established project libraries which are kept by the leaders in the respective projects. These libraries contain material pertaining to the various activities such as on foods, clothing, child guidance, and gardening.

A book collection for mothers and pregnant women is maintained by the Dade County, Fla., Extension Service, from which books are lent for 2 weeks or a month. This office also distributes \$15 worth of books bought by the Miami Home Demonstration Club for the 4-H club girls of the county.

Many community libraries have been started by private contributions and are the direct outgrowth of extension reading circles or community reading shelves. The present up-to-date library of Star Valley, Wyo., can be traced to the co-

operative efforts of the Lincoln County home demonstration agent and some enterprising local people.

Home Agent Mary Lee McAllister of Cabarrus County, N. C., relates the unique beginning of their first home demonstration club library in 1934. At a meeting of the White Hall Club to select some community-improvement project, Mrs. McAllister interested the members in taking advantage of a publishing company's advertisement offering 50 books for \$10. From this beginning, the library's collection grew in 1 year to more than 1,000 well-selected volumes, many of them donated. The success of the club library was instantaneous and developed into a county-wide project sponsored by the Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs. This club library is located in the home agent's office. One woman in each club serves as librarian.

In these and other ways the extension agent, often cooperating with the State and county library commissions or other interested organization, has helped to get good books to isolated communities and to interest those who live near libraries to read better books.

County Field Day

Claiborne County (Miss.) Field Day was arranged for the farmers and businessmen by County Agent J. S. McKewen with the cooperation of the Soil Conservation Service, as a forerunner to their intensive campaign to rebuild soils and terrace the lands.

They planned a tour of the soil-conservation demonstration area of Claiborne County to show landowners what is being accomplished, how it is being done, and in what ways a similar program of soil conservation can be carried out on every farm in Claiborne County. Leaders in State extension work and the Soil Conservation Service in Mississippi explained the work.

Those attending visited six different places, among them, one for a study of strip cropping and crop rotation. They saw fields and pastures terraced and contoured to "make running water walk" and leave the soil behind. On one place pastures and a display of kudzu were featured and at another, pasture, contouring, and basic slag demonstrations were shown.

The Port Gibson Reveille, a local weekly, and the Lions Club did much to make this day a success and are boosting the soil-rebuilding program in every way possible.

Four Farmers Hold Open House

THE well-balanced, successfully operated Indiana farms, typical of those found in the very heart of Hoosierland, received a most careful inspection by almost 600 pairs of eyes on July 2, when the third annual Indiana farm-management tour was held by the department of farm management of Purdue University and the Indiana Farm-Management Association.

Four farms were visited during the day, where operators and owners told in their own words the practices they followed in making their farming operations successful. At each of the farms, hosts of questions were asked. Many of the queries were not so much about how things were done but more about why. The farms visited were situated in Grant, Delaware, Blackford, and Madison Counties, and each of the operators had been a farm-management extension record book cooperator for a number of years. Thus, the facts given during the day were substantiated by records that had been completely analyzed and found fully reliable.

The people attending the tour represented more than 50 Indiana counties and a half dozen States. One of the interesting things noted about those making the tour was that they represented not only farm folks but as many as 30 different professions and occupations. Physicians, lawyers, editors, students, teachers, county agents, farm managers, insurance people, and credit men were all represented. Seemingly, all had an interest in the type of agriculture that was being explained and shown. Indiana farmers came from as far south as Floyd County and as far north as the Michigan line. Illinois had a large delegation of farm managers, and the College of Agriculture at the University of Illinois was represented by several members. Walter W. McLaughlin of Springfield, who is commissioner of agriculture in Illinois, also attended. Other States represented include Ohio, Michigan, and Kentucky.

A public address system was used at all farms so the operators could be heard by those attending. Nearly three-fourths of the total attendance was present for the first stop, and with each farm visited the attendance grew. Several commercial concerns aided in making the day more enjoyable by furnishing supplies and refreshments.

During the noon hour, which was spent at the Orchard Lawn Farm in Delaware

County, Howard Halderman, of Wabash, president of the Indiana Farm-Management Association, was in charge of a program which included the introduction of representatives of various organizations, both in Indiana and in neighboring States. D. Howard Doane, of St. Louis, president of the National Society of Farm Managers and Land Appraisers, gave an address, stressing the use of farm products in industry. It was his opinion that the American farmer needs to produce for a broader market and that the

An Effective Exhibit

AN ELECTRICAL map exhibit pointing out agricultural extension activities in every county in Georgia was given an initial trial at Farm and Home Week at the College of Agriculture recently, and will be on display at fairs over the State this fall and winter. It was planned as one of the main attractions for the Extension Service exhibit at the Southeastern Fair in Atlanta.

On a map of the State, a bulb is placed in every county and wired to a switching drum at the back. Legends on each side of the map show Extension Service accomplishment during the last year. As a light beside each accomplishment flashes on, the lights in counties in which those accomplishments were made also flash on.

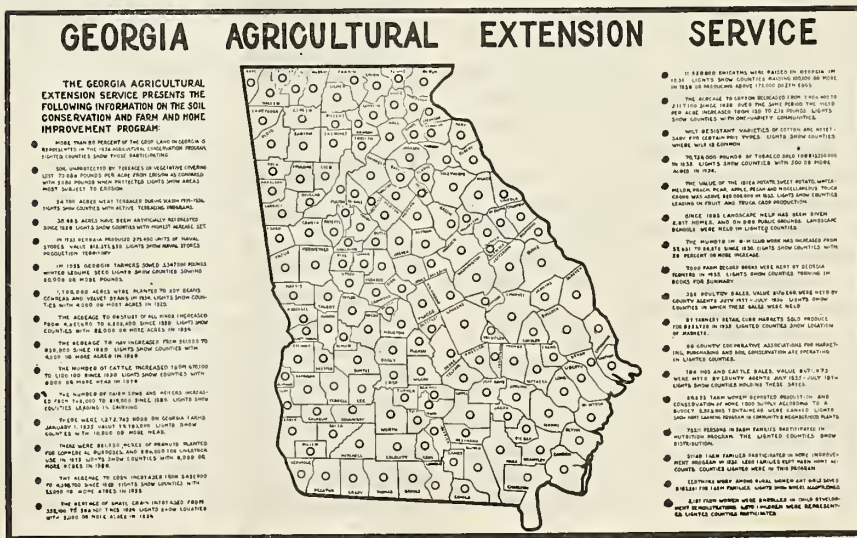
The switching device is simply a big

industrial field was the solution to the problem. Last year, he said, more than \$50,000,000 of new capitalization was added to industries taking advantage of American farm products.

Farmers and others attending the tour were able to see in actual operation farms where approved agricultural practices were being used in an adjustment that brought financial incomes large enough to pay interest on capital invested and a fair rate of return for labor expended. The fact that these farms were privately owned and that the operators told the story in their own words made the lessons not only more interesting but also more effective. Questions that followed each discussion emphasized many points about how the good individual practices fit into the general farm program.

wooden drum that is turned by an electric motor. Tiny squares of copper strips have been properly located on the drum and wired together. As the drum turns, these strips come in contact with brushes at the top and complete the electric circuit, which turns on all the lights in that circuit. By the time the people in front have time to visualize one phase of work, the drum has turned to another set of strips and has turned on the lights depicting another phase of work.

The Georgia workers experimented with a much smaller and less complicated electric map exhibit last year. Being well pleased with the interest it created and the way it depicted extension accomplishments, they planned the larger map.



Supervised Truck Growing

Replaces Lost Cotton Income in Jasper County, S. C.

COUNTY Agent J. P. Graham in Jasper County, S. C., has made truck crops pay the farmers of his county. This year 300 acres of produce have netted approximately \$50,000 in income.

In 1919 Jasper County farmers grew 8,100 acres of cotton; in 1934 only 3,000 acres. More than half the financial income from the main money crop was thereby cut off. No other crops were advanced to take the place of this acreage, leaving a complete loss to Jasper farmers.

Mr. Graham, after a careful study of conditions, including soil, climate, and other factors, in an attempt to find some substitute crop, decided on a variety of vegetables as most logical for this section.

As the production of vegetable and truck crops requires a great deal of cash outlay in the beginning, it was necessary to find someone who would advance the cash or credit for the necessary fertilizer and seed. Mr. Graham got in touch with F. O. Bullard, winter farmer of Dade County, Fla., and succeeded in arousing his interest in vegetable production in this section of the State.

After making a connection between Mr. Bullard and the growers, it was finally decided that Mr. Bullard would furnish a stated amount of fertilizer and seed for each of three crops—Irish potatoes, string beans, and tomatoes—and receive for his share 50 percent of the crop on a package basis. The growers' part of the expense was to furnish land and labor.

Thirty growers became parties to the new venture. Some produced a small acreage of all three crops, some two crops, and some only one crop. Approximately 300 acres were put under cultivation in this group of demonstrations.

As Mr. Bullard is detained in Florida until April because of his interests there, Mr. Graham issued the seed and fertilizer, instructed the farmers, and followed each demonstration as closely as possible. Later Mr. Bullard's force of experienced trucksters were put in the fields to show the Jasper growers how to pick, pack, and market the crops.

When the crops were ready to harvest, a fleet of huge trucks was assembled, and the produce was hauled to market. Produce loaded at the packing shed Mon-

day night was moved to New York from Ridgeland in 30 hours, reaching there for Wednesday morning's sale. The smallest growers, 1-acre men, received this service as well as did the larger planters. This marketing system enabled each

grower, regardless of the size of his shipment, to sell his produce on its own merits with carlot sales benefits.

The year was an exceptional one with regard to price, but the yield was not more than 50 percent of a normal crop. However, practically every farmer made some money on every crop, and the venture is regarded generally by farmers, business men, and professional people of the county as a success. In a normal crop year, the price would probably be lower, but with higher yields the income per acre to the farmer would remain about the same as this year.

Women Celebrate 25th McKimmon Milestone



Fifteen hundred country women, attending the fifteenth annual meeting of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, held at

Raleigh in July, celebrated Assistant Director Jane S. McKimmon's twenty-fifth anniversary in home demonstration work.

The women were welcomed by Dean I. O. Schaub, who recounted the growth of home demonstration work since it was started in 1911, when the first tomato clubs were organized. He said the only difference he had ever had with Dr. McKimmon was over the pronunciation of the word tomato, and as yet they had not arrived at any definite agreement.

As one of the five pioneer home demonstration agents in North Carolina, Dr. McKimmon has seen club work develop from the activities of 416 girls in 14 counties in 1911 to a combined club membership in 1936 of 54,310 farm women and girls, covering 77 counties.

A Record of Service

Helping 4-H club members in their projects is an avocation of Anna M. Schneider, of St. Charles County, Mo. As a club leader for 8 years she has trained scores of girls and boys toward better farm living and has established an outstanding record of service.

During her period of service she has led 35 different clubs, or an average of more than 4 a year. Probably more remarkable is the fact that 33 of these clubs showed a 100-percent completion—

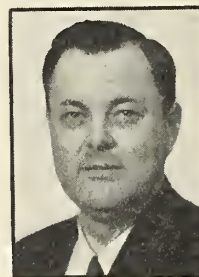
that is, every individual starting the project work completed it satisfactorily.

Clubs which she has led have studied such subjects as clothing, canning, attractive homes, poultry, gardens, cattle judging, grain judging, health, and first-aid. Health has been the most popular subject, with seven of her groups studying some phase of it.

A feature of Miss Schneider's program is a local achievement program in which her own groups participate. At such events her different teams present their demonstrations before parents and neighbors. There, too, the members sell ice cream and cake in order to obtain money with which to attend the annual State round-up at the Missouri College of Agriculture in August.

As president of her county leaders' association, Miss Schneider helps other volunteer club leaders. She is also interested in farm bureau work and is now president of the women's group of that organization in her county.

Distinguished Citizen



"The community's most distinguished citizen" was the designation recently given County Agent Merle D. Collins, Yuba County, Calif. A medal for distinguished service was presented to Agent Collins

by the Exchange Club of Marysville before 100 rural and urban leaders in the county.

One speaker, in paying tribute to Agent Collins' 6 years of service to the county, likened him to a football player who "hits the line, carries the ball, and knows teamwork."



Texas Looks Back 6 Years on the

Wardrobe Demonstration

NOTHING is more stimulating to one's morale than dressing up in a becoming, harmonizing outfit. Perhaps this is one reason that more than 100,000 Texas home-demonstration club women from 172 counties have taken part in wardrobe demonstration work during the last 6 years. More than 75,000 foundation patterns have been made by these women. About 7,000 have been demonstrators for their own clubs, agreeing to take inventory of their clothing, plan for the year, keep records of clothing expenditures, provide storage for clothing, and make and use a foundation pattern. Nearly 100,000 women have cooperated in one or more phases of the work, such as keeping records of clothing expenditures, remodeling clothes, and building clothes closets.

This movement had its beginning back in 1928, when District Agent Kate Adele Hill, then home demonstration agent in Cameron County, asked one woman from each of her 12 home-demonstration clubs to try a demonstration in clothing. The purpose of this demonstration was to give serious study to line, color, construction, selection, and cost of each demonstrator's entire wardrobe for a period of 9 months.

Each demonstrator relayed this information to her club members and reported the results at their encampment held in June 1929.

Mrs. Dora Russell Barnes, Texas clothing specialist, attended this encampment and was so impressed with the accomplishments of the 12 women reporting that in the fall she started a wardrobe demonstration in 34 counties with 243 demonstrators and 1,754 cooperators.

The women were so enthusiastic over the results of their work that the news spread to other counties, and they wanted a State wardrobe demonstration contest. This request was granted, and in the fall of 1930, 50 counties with 469 demonstrators and 7,657 cooperators signed up to carry on this wardrobe demonstration.

During the farmer's short course in July 1931, the first wardrobe demonstration contest in the world was held. There was a great deal of interest shown in this well-attended demonstration. As a consequence, 70 counties enrolled for the demonstration of 1932.

In 1933, Mrs. Barnes felt that the women had learned to keep individual

clothing accounts and were ready to take another step, so the wardrobe demonstration was divided into two classes—class 1, for those entering for the first time; and class 2, for those who wanted to continue with the wardrobe demonstration, which was put on a family basis. These demonstrators planned the clothing for the family, kept a record of clothing expenditure, and provided adequate storage space for the entire family instead of for the individual.

This same method was pursued in 1934-35, and the work continued to grow until, in 1935, 109 counties were included, 84 in class 1 and 65 in class 2, with 24,685 women enrolled. In 1936 the plan was changed to have one demonstration put entirely on a family basis—in other words, a "family wardrobe demonstration."

In order to promote clothing work, the home demonstration agents gave demonstrations on the different phases of clothing. The type of demonstration given was determined by the clothing goals in their respective counties. The agents made home visits to the demonstrators, giving them any help needed to put on the demonstrations. As a rule, two home visits per demonstrator were sufficient, one at the beginning of the demonstration and another at its completion. Rally and achievement days, style shows, and contests were held.

Such commercial firms as textile manufacturers, pattern companies, and local merchants have been sources of great help by furnishing patterns and samples of materials for demonstration and by giving helpful information concerning them. Commercial cleaning establishments have cooperated in cleaning garments for demonstration purposes.

"I want to congratulate the Texas home agents for the excellent results they have accomplished with these home-demonstration club women", said Mrs. Barnes. "The quality of the work has been most gratifying, and, realizing the importance of harmonizing the entire wardrobe, the women have created real style in their clothes. Each year there has been a definite improvement along this line."

NEW additions to the present national forest areas totaling 397,037 acres were approved September 30, 1936. The cost of this land totaled \$2,036,026, and the additions are to be made to 54 established forest units.

A County Agent Discusses Some Theories on

Nature's Answers to Farm Problems



CHESTER B. ALSPACH
County Agricultural Agent,
Licking County, Ohio

ONE OF THE interesting things about being a county agricultural extension agent is that the profession provides abundant opportunity to make intimate contacts with many folks whose chief interests in life vary greatly. The agent's primary duties, being those of an educator, bring him into frequent contact with the individual producer out there on the farm, where he hears the philosophy that has been worked out between the plow handles. But the activities of the agent extend beyond the field of production into that of distribution, where he is intimately associated with organized groups of both rural and urban folks. There he hears a discussion of the major problems from an entirely different approach. Again, the agent frequently lives in the city, where he is classed as a consumer and hears his city-dwelling neighbors express themselves from an entirely different point of view.

Solutions Vary

Though the ideas and opinions of each of these three groups are entirely distinct from the other two, it is noticeable that all three agree in two respects: First, they are intensely interested in the production and distribution of the basic commodities; and, second, the production and distribution of these commodities represent one of the major problems that confront our Nation today. The great-

est difference of opinion lies in the proposed solution of this major problem. Among the producers' groups are those who think the farmer should produce less and ultimately receive more for his products, either by reducing the margin allowed to the distributor, or by increasing the price paid by the consumer, or both. There are those who distribute the commodities who believe that the farmer should produce more that the consumer may pay less, the margin for distribution remaining approximately where it is now and resulting in an increased volume of business and more net profit to that group.

Many consumers, in addition to thinking that the farmer should produce more that they might pay less, believe that costs of distribution are unfair. Such consumers are threatening to organize consumers' cooperatives and to go into the business of distribution and possibly, ultimately, into the business of production also.

Blindman's Buff

There is a fourth group, representatives of which are found in all three of the groups mentioned heretofore, who believe that this problem is, after all, only imaginary, and that the talent of our deepest thinkers and the millions of our national dollars that are being devoted to the problem, represent a wistful waste. Their philosophy is "Nature cures while man endures." In other words if man would become and remain unconcerned about the solution of this and other problems, nature itself would solve them in its own time and in its own way. Because the disciples of this thought are apparently increasing in number, and because this philosophy may lead to a dangerous indifference, I wish to say a few words about "Nature's solution to the farmer's problems."

First of all let us concede that Nature does solve problems too baffling for the scientifically inclined human mind. Numerous illustrations of this truth may be found in the plant and animal kingdoms, and even in economic realms. For example, within the last two decades

vegetable growers from Long Island to Colorado, and from points as far north as Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota to points as far south as cabbage can be grown, suffered severe losses from a disease known as "cabbage yellows." In warm, dry seasons as much as 90 percent of the cabbage in great cabbage fields was destroyed. This fungus organism when once introduced seems capable of living indefinitely in the soil, even though no cabbage is grown there. The efforts of the best plant pathologists available to control this disease were practically without favorable results. Then Nature stepped in and produced "yellows" resistant plants that were unaffected by this disease, and gradually the cabbage-growing business resumed normal proportions.

Within the last decade the losses to the dairymen of this country from Bang's disease, or infectious abortion in cattle, have been and are tremendous. It is generally conceded that these losses exceed those caused by bovine tuberculosis, which is now under control. To date there is no generally accepted cure for Bang's disease. The State and Federal Governments are cooperating with the dairymen in a campaign to eliminate animals from the herds that are known by test to be affected. By this arrangement the dairyman receives an indemnity for the diseased animals.

Advocates of the principle that "Nature cures while man endures" say,



While Nature marks time.

The agent is close to the producer, but he hears the complaints of his neighbor consumers in the city, and, working close to the distributor, knows his difficulties. How is he going to reconcile these three viewpoints? How shall he arrive at the truth? County Agent Alspach has been thinking about these matters and gives here some of his conclusions.

"What's the use of all this work and expense? Ninety percent of the affected cows will develop a natural immunity after aborting once or twice and will then produce living progeny." The exponents of this philosophy now have directed their attack at the present Soil Conservation program. Remembering the days of excessive, burdensome farm-commodity surpluses but a few years back and the expenditures connected with the Triple A programs that were designed to correct these surpluses, they experience no particular concern over the fact that the fertility of our soil is being depleted so rapidly that in spite of our revolutionizing improvements in farm machinery and fertilizing practices we are but barely able to produce more per farming unit today than our forefathers did 60 years ago. This principle of "Nature cures while man endures" would stimulate an indifference to the disappearing soil-fertility problem, because if allowed to continue long enough the danger of surpluses would disappear forever.

Why Wait for Generations?

This sort of reasoning does not delve deeply enough into the facts of the cases. Nature's so-called solutions, even though they are frequently of immeasurable value to human happiness, also frequently are insufficient, incomplete, and too slow to render the greatest satisfaction to the human race.

In the case of the cabbage yellows, Nature's cure was insufficient. It remained for man to take up the naturally resistant plants and, by selection and propagation, to develop and distribute them that they might render maximum usefulness as a food commodity.

In the case of the bovine disease, Nature's cure is incomplete. While individuals develop this natural immunity, they still remain carriers and may infect other nonimmunized animals so that the economic loss continues on and on indefinitely.

Likewise, in the case of the Soil Conservation program, even if we should grant that Nature's cure is sufficient and complete, it is still too slow to render maximum service to this generation.

The fertility of the soil often is depleted so rapidly that the damage done in a very short time may take Nature alone generations to repair. Authentic illustrations are on record showing that a single hard rain on an unwisely cultivated field may carry away more fertility than Nature could repair in 400 years; and that's too long to wait for food.

What then is man's duty in this regard? It has been said that the two greatest gifts from the Creator to the human race, in addition to life itself, are Jesus Christ and the fertility of the soil. The benefits of both should be passed on from generation to generation in increasing rather than decreasing quantities. Unfortunately, it is possible for man to exploit the land and rob it of its fertility, leaving less and less for each succeeding generation. Obviously, man's duty is to preserve and at the same time to use this great gift.

Let's Bend the Wind

Producers under economic stress are forced to continue to mine the fertility of their soils to meet ever-present obligations in the form of taxes, rent, equipment, upkeep, etc. What then is the way out? Nature's way is to allow the production of excessive surpluses, which are accompanied by low, starvation prices for these surpluses, and to follow with a wide swing in the opposite direction to scarcity, which causes high, starvation prices. Nature, supplemented with an intelligent production program by man, can avoid these distressing extremes so that all may have plenty always. The difficulty is to get this new program started. The State and Federal Governments are providing the means for the start through the present Soil Conservation program which, although it provides immediate monetary compensation to cooperating producers, is essentially an educational program designed to prove ultimately that the proper use of the land is more profitable, even without subsidy, than our present wasteful system.

What shall we say to those who advocate indifference because "Nature cures while man endures"? May I illustrate.



Isn't Mother Nature a laggard?

Thousands of Chinese junks are sailing the Yangtze River today. Does the Chinese sailor wait for a tail wind to blow him up the river? Not much! In his own words he bends the wind. By that he means that he utilizes whatever wind nature has to offer, and through a series of tacks and turns he ultimately arrives at the desired goal. In response to those who advocate that we should wait for Nature's cure, let us determine to bend the wind and arrive at the desirable goal much sooner and with much less distress to humanity as a whole.

Six Good Reasons for Your Annual Report

1. The annual report is an accounting to the tax-paying public of what the extension worker has accomplished during the year.
2. It is a record of the year's work put into shape for ready reference in later years by the extension worker himself, or by his successors.
3. The annual report affords the extension worker opportunity to place his activities and accomplishments before superior officers who form judgment as to which workers are deserving of promotion or best qualified to fill responsible positions when vacancies occur.
4. The inventory of the past year's efforts and accomplishment enables the extension worker to plan more effectively for the coming year.
5. An accurate report of his work is a duty every scientific worker owes to the other members of his profession.
6. Annual reports are required by the Smith-Lever Law.



My Point of View

Georgia Looks to Its Laurels

In looking over the August edition of Extension Service Review I notice an article, "Tree Planting Gets a Real Start."

In Georgia we have set out 26,900,800 seedlings from 1928 to date. Through the county agent, 31,648 acres were planted. Other organizations such as the Soil Erosion Service, the Northeast Georgia Game Conservation Commission, and the Resettlement Administration have planted about 7,000 acres, making a total of more than 38,000 acres which have been reforested in Georgia.

I have 250 acres, set out several years ago in Hart County, of the slash pine species (*Pinus caribea*) on which some trees made a 61-inch-height growth last year. Some of our counties have set out as much as 8,600 acres, and I did not get a complete report from all the agents in the State. I also wish to say that every nursery in the State has completely sold out of seedlings, and that I, personally, had to turn down orders for more than 800,000 seedlings for 1937 setting.—*DuPre Barrett, extension forester, Athens, Ga.*

* * *

Newspapers Help Planning

In connection with the county agricultural-planning project the Cooperstown newspapers in Otsego County, N. Y., aroused the general interest of a large number of rural and urban people on an important economic question. Last March the county agricultural-planning committee held a meeting to consider the trends in agriculture in the county during the last 50 years and to discuss probable future trends. One of the significant facts brought out at the committee meeting was a reduction of 34 percent in the number of farms in the county. Whether or not this change was a good thing for the agriculture of the county was recognized immediately as a controversial question by the committee and by the Cooperstown newspapers, which gave wide publicity to the facts presented.

The following week the papers came out with an announcement of a contest. They offered a \$10 prize to the person in the county who would write them the best letter on the question, "Is a reduction of one-third in the number of farms in Otsego County in the last 50 years beneficial to the agriculture of the county?" Three weeks were given to get the letters to a committee of three men having good understanding of agricultural economics who were selected as judges.

Ten letters were submitted. The names of the contestants were kept secret until the letters were judged. The prize was won by a young farmer who had been a student of vocational agriculture and an outstanding 4-H club member. The prize-winning letter was published in the papers, and during the succeeding weeks several of the other creditable letters also were printed.

The contest succeeded in arousing considerable interest and much healthy discussion. One valuable result was getting across, through the letters, a general consideration of the economic factors affecting the agriculture of the county.—*M. E. Thompson, county agricultural agent, Otsego County, N. Y.*

* * *

Figures Convince

I used to good advantage, at a Lions' Club meeting the other day, statistical information taken out of the recent summary of extension work in 1935, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and prepared by M. C. Wilson. I never quite fully realized the real value of that summary until confronted with the necessity of speaking to a group of businessmen.—*E. F. Graff, district extension agent, Iowa.*

* * *

A "Doing" Program for Older Girls

It is gratifying to note that the number of older club girls entering and continuing in the club program is increasing in Gloucester County, N. J. The older girls asked if they could have a club to do some of the things their younger sisters were doing. Accordingly, a division into two age groups was made in several communities with distinct clubs

for the older and younger girls. This separation by age interests in these communities has kept the older girl a club member.

Experience in this county has proved that a "doing" program is the secret of such success as we have had. Discussion groups in themselves have failed with this older-age group, but discussion carried along with a "doing" program works admirably. In some cases the older club member is being used as leadership material in assisting with other club activities. Older club members have taken considerable responsibility for exhibits and county achievement days.

I believe that a "doing" program of short units of practical value worked out by the Extension Service for these girls will hold them in club work. I question the advisability of trying to socialize the program very much. So many other organizations can offer so much more and so much better leadership for recreational activities than we, that it would seem wisest to let our aim of teaching fundamentals of homemaking be thoroughly understood.—*Mary M. Leaming, home demonstration agent, Gloucester County, N. J.*

Extension Headaches

Sixteen years in the field as an extension worker have provided me with a lot of experiences and a few ideas. Fifteen years of actual farming on my own account have made the experiences more personal and impressive. As the time draws near for the final passing out of the picture, I imagine that some of these experiences and conclusions might be made a matter of record.

As I look back, the incidents that stand out most clearly are the mistakes and the failures. It seems to me that the most serious charge that may be laid against the Agricultural Extension Service concerns its failure to properly analyze its mistakes.

I recall first the case of mental depression when I stood beside a discouraged owner and saw the brooder floor covered with dead chicks. I heard him say: "What's the matter? What can I do? I can't afford this." Unfortunately, perhaps, I had had too much experience of my own, and my only reply was "Get a shovel, bury the dead, and forget about

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Another Way to Do It

Florida's County Councils Aid Extension Agents to Outline Plans of Work

COUNTY COUNCILS were organized in 44 of Florida's 67 counties late in 1935 and included all but 7 of those in which agents were working. With the county agent as chairman, each council is composed of successful farmers and leading farm women, the home demonstration agent, vocational agriculture teachers, representatives of civic clubs, and others interested in and familiar with the county's agriculture.

To obtain estimates of both present and future production, it was necessary to supply the councils with all available economic data pertinent to the county. The Agricultural Extension Service assembled and prepared county agricultural data from all available sources and presented a tabulation of Florida census data by type of farming areas. The State was divided into 13 different areas by type of farming for this purpose and for use in assembling answers to the questions propounded by the A. A. A.

In addition, available farm-management and organization surveys previously made in 26 counties by the experiment station, extension service, or teaching division of the college of agriculture were assembled for reference. New surveys were made in 17 counties covering the year 1935, and the results are being tabulated for return to the councils.

Soils Studied

Florida is a land of diverse soils, and a knowledge of the soil types in the county is necessary before intelligent recommendations can be made as to the use of this land for the production of crops or for timber, pasturage, or other purposes. Only a small number of Florida counties have been surveyed by the United States Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, and for many of the areas surveyed the maps are out of print.

The Extension Service set to work to obtain general soil maps of all the counties so that they could be supplied to the councils. In the summer of 1935 a land-use survey and research study was made for several months by the Florida Experiment Station, in cooperation with Federal agencies and the teaching division of the college of agriculture. Reconnaissance

soil surveys were made in a number of counties. Later, this work was taken up by the Rural Resettlement Administration, the college of agriculture continuing to lend cooperation. All available county reconnaissance maps are being assembled and supplied to the councils for their guidance.

The councils serve as a medium for obtaining farmer approval of plans proposed by the State and Federal officials and for submitting pertinent suggestions for county, State, and National agricultural programs. They permit quick contact with a group of leading farmers in each county for solution and discussion of specific problems. They also enable farmers of each county to meet voluntarily to discuss their production and marketing problems.

Councils are assisting county and home demonstration agents and other agricultural workers in effecting a broader dissemination of facts on agriculture and in stressing a program best suited to the needs of farmers in the county. Coordination of all agricultural interests in the county is one of the most important aims of the program.

As there are no farm bureau, National Grange, or similar organizations in Florida, the county agricultural program councils are proving of much-needed assistance to the county and home demonstration agents in formulating and recommending a program of work for each county. They select projects which they consider feasible and practical for the county. Doubtless this will, in time, come to be an important service of the councils.

For the present, most councils are concerned with production problems, but some already have adopted marketing projects for their counties, applying particularly to poultry, and no doubt work along this line will expand in future, as marketing is a problem of first importance.

In the short space of 6 months, county agricultural program councils have proved their usefulness in Florida, and they have only begun to assist the Extension Service in formulating programs of work. Their field of usefulness is destined to expand greatly in the future.



THE first territorial extension conference was held at Palmer, Alaska, August 17 and 18. Those who attended the conference were, from left to right, Miss Ruth A. Peck, home demonstration leader; J. T. Flakne, district agent; L. T. Oldroyd, director; J. B. Loftus, extension veterinarian; Mrs. Flakne, W. A. Lloyd of U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Miss Ruth De Armond, district home demonstration agent.

New A. A. A. Range Plan

A range-improvement program for the western range States has been developed following a series of meetings of livestock producers and representatives of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Under this plan stockmen may earn payments for range-building practices performed during the calendar year 1936 and also establish the basis for more extensive improvement of the range in any program which may be developed for 1937.

The range program applies to privately owned or privately controlled range land. It is open to participation by any producer of livestock on such land who wishes to participate, and all participation will be wholly on a voluntary basis. Payments will be limited by the grazing capacity of the ranch.

The program applies to the 13 States of the western region of the A. A. A., of which George E. Farrell is director.

Practices which will be considered for payment must be approved by county committees as those that will conserve the range. Among such practices will be contouring, development of springs and seeps, building earthen pits or reservoirs for holding rainfall, drilling or digging wells, water spreading to prevent soil washing, reseeding depleted range land with crested wheat grass, rodent control, establishment of fire guards, and destroying sagebrush.

Not all the practices listed above will be applicable to all ranches but only those considered feasible from a conservation standpoint as certified by the committees in each county.

Where Do We Go From Here?

(Continued from page 145)

duction control, emphasis was being transferred to the care and building of the soil.

The drought of 1934 reduced surpluses in corn and wheat to near their normal levels—pared them down in 1 year. There has been no reason since then to attempt to bring them lower. An adequate supply of food and feed is just as much a part of any sound program for agriculture as is the prevention of price-destroying carry-overs.

Most of the considerations which prompted a national farm program in 1933 are still with us. There are additional ones.

The droughts, dust storms, and floods of the past 3 years have given us a warning whose implications are more sinister than any temporary distress caused by low prices. We shall not have the capacity to produce enough food and feed for our own use unless we stop exploiting our natural resources. We are in the position of a spendthrift who has more than enough for his daily needs, but whose balance at the bank is getting lower and lower. The real threat of scarcity to consumers is the threat of eroded and depleted land.

The necessity for conservation in the interest of all does not apply only to cotton and wheat lands and other cultivated areas. It applies as well to the grazing areas.

It would be difficult to talk about agriculture without talking about the conditions that have resulted from the prolonged dry spell.

Crop Insurance

Secretary Wallace feels so, too, and he wants farmers to have additional crop insurance. He would couple it with a system of commodity loans that would store wheat, corn, and other crops in times of plenty to be used in the years when drought or other causes reduced production.

I believe that such a plan is feasible and will do all that I can to help put it into execution at the earliest possible moment. If it is feasible, the shocks that come through drought or through surpluses will be cushioned. Not only will additional protection be given the grower, but protection will be given consumers as well against threats of scarcity, or prices that are too high.

The thinking of all of us will be clarified if we keep in mind that there is a midway

point between overabundant-production and unwise-scarcity programs. The production of any crop is the production of real wealth up to a certain point. Beyond that point it is a waste of soil, labor, and actual cash. The last 3 years have not changed the economic facts which govern the distribution and consumption of commodities. Crops that pile up carry-overs to excessive proportions would beat down prices in the future just as they have done in the past.

Subsidizing farm products for foreign export is certain to result in retaliation. We might as well admit once and for all that we cannot sell to foreigners unless we buy from foreigners. The high-tariff panacea for agriculture's woes was trotted out during the presidential campaign of 1928. The result was the Smoot-Hawley tariff. The low prices which resulted effectively shut out competitive farm imports, but unfortunately they ruined the farmer at the same time.

If we examine export subsidy proposals carefully we shall see that they are in reality proposals to subsidize foreign consumers at the expense of our taxpayers. The theory is that if we force our surpluses out of this country the higher cost to our own people will raise the income of our farmers.

In all probability we could not operate export subsidies beyond a limited extent. Foreign nations would keep out our goods regardless of the attempt we made to dump them. Any proposal that looks toward economic self-sufficiency for the United States will in the long run curtail our agricultural exports just as inevitably as would the closing of our harbors.

Program Considers Producer First

So will any program which does not take the welfare of the agricultural producer into account. The importance of exports should not be minimized. We need them and from present indications will keep our share of them, provided we pursue a sensible production policy and a sensible trade policy.

Exports are important, but a decent return to the man who grows the crop is more important. Farm programs, if they mean anything to the farmer and to the country as a whole, must never lose sight of the fact that their basic consideration is the welfare of the primary producer. Farmers cannot and will not continue to produce year after year at starvation prices.

One persistent criticism of the A. A. A. has been on the grounds of interference with the farmer. That criticism has no real foundation. Participation in adjustment programs was on a voluntary basis, as is participation in the Agricultural Conservation program.

Through the A. A. A., the Government has simply provided the machinery through which farmers could cooperate on a national basis. The trend from its inception has been against centralization. Its strength has been the strength of the farmers who took part in its programs.

After 1937, under the present act, there will be still further decentralization of the conservation program. The States will take over the work of administration, with the Federal Government serving as a coordinating agency to see that the plans being followed are in the interests of agriculture as a whole and in the interest of the public as well.

I am looking forward to the period of State administration with interest and with hope. National programs for agriculture are only a few years old. Of necessity, there will be many changes before we will know what is best. That does not matter so long as we are on the right track—so long as we demonstrate the ability to adjust ourselves to meet the same old economic forces in new guises. I believe we have that ability.



C. C. C. and relief laborers in Payne County, Okla., mixing poison of bran bait, sodium arsenite, and sawdust in a small power-operated concrete mixer to combat the grasshopper invasion of eastern Oklahoma. The sawdust, cooperatively procured, was added to make the bran go farther. The mixture was poured into bags and stacked up for distribution to farmers who brought bags and bran in exchange.

First Alaskan 4-H Round-up



THE first 4-H club round-up in the Territory of Alaska was held in connection with the Tanana Valley Fair at Fairbanks. More than 50 club members, representing 2 clubs at Matanuska, 2 at Nenana, and 5 at Fairbanks, were there to take part in the exhibits, discussions, and recreational features of the program. The very creditable exhibits included garden produce, sewing and food exhibits, poultry, and calves. The prize head of cabbage at the fair, weighing 27 pounds, was grown by a 4-H club boy.

Mrs. Peter Grandison, the first local leader of an Alaskan 4-H club, was appointed superintendent of the round-up. It was voted to make this an annual 4-H club affair and, if possible, to send a delegate to Camp Plummer, the meeting place for 4-H clubs of the Western States, at Portland, Oreg., in connection with the Pacific International Livestock Show. The Alaskan railroads cooperated by transporting the club members and their exhibits free of charge.

Extension Headaches

(Continued from page 154)

them; or go back to the old hen for your chick supply." Usually the owner called in a new "doctor"—somebody who knew something about chickens.

Without recounting all of the harrowing details of argument and conflict, I may truthfully say that I knew and so stated, as early as 1905, that this mortality was the product of the incubator, not the brooder, and not feeding methods. Unfortunately, I have no record of this fact unless "Dick" Graham (Guelph Agricultural College) has a good memory. The Kansas Agricultural College came to my rescue in 1932, and I thank them for it; but I shall die wondering why in heck they took so long—the evidence lay around the field in chunks.

Next, I recall the great campaign to cure roup with permanganate of potash and the ax. The chief equipment of the up-to-date poultry plant until 1924 was a well-supplied drug store and an incin-

erator. As a matter of accident, I had had little personal experience with the trouble, and it was not until the fall of 1921 that I learned the nature of this disease. How did I learn it? By hanging onto the coattails of a leading poultryman. Charlie Cornman, the turkey king of Casa Grande, Ariz., had a thousand or more very fine turks. He took over some rousy birds on a debt and turned them loose in the flock. I called him for it but was liberally called down in return. "Turville", said this successful grower, "you know better than that, or ought to. You know this is a feeding disease and not contagious. Everybody else who has had experience in the business does." So, with this slap as a stimulant, I filched enough money to buy some yellow corn, semisolid, alfalfa hay, and laying mash and started a "bootleg" experiment. It worked 100 percent. Further, my district was part

desert and part irrigated land, and as I drove from one section to the other in the old "Model T", I could see the distinct lines where the roup started and where it stopped. I published some newspaper stuff in July 1923 and was ready with photographs, formulas, and records in 1924, but Dr. Beach beat me to it. I was glad he did, and I scattered his bulletins far and wide. I thank him for his work, but again I wonder why he or someone else had not done the same thing 30 or 50 years earlier; for if the evidence of the cause of pullorum lay around in chunks, the evidence of the cause of roup was piled up in heaps.

Then came those culling campaigns. What a travesty on science! A million-dollar campaign with patent-medicine tactics, and not a single jot or tittle of scientific evidence to support it. Again the correction came from the field—from the poultrymen, although the scientific facts in the case were finally developed by the Federal Poultry Division. But the campaign had run wild for at least 15 years before it was checked. There never was any legitimate excuse for this.

My next headache resulted from trying to fit the old capillary theory of moisture movement to western deep-soil conditions. McLaughlin and Fortier had told us in 1908 that it was wrong, but apparently the educators did not hear them. Briggs and Shantz followed in 1912, but it remained for the 20's to popularize the "new" idea of static soil water. Again, why so much delay? Innumerable farmers had known and used the fact for many years.

With all of these major blunders, naturally there were minor ones, and all of you easily recall them. I will not list them except to say that I am still looking for the fellow who started me using calcium chlorate on bindweed.

Now all of this sounds like the mumbling of an old grouch who should have passed out years ago; but I stated in the beginning that I was to discuss failures and the importance of their analysis, and the above are illustrations. As a matter of fact, a chief value of extension work has been its influence in showing up the error in many popular theories that otherwise might have gone on and on. It is a highly valuable social service and should be developed as a science, that it might act more speedily and more accurately. Given a scientifically proven and explained fact, it is not usually difficult to put it over—if it is also practical. Our major difficulty lies in trying to demonstrate theories that are not sound.—*E. S. Turville, county agricultural agent, Yavapai County, Ariz.*

Young People's Club Opens the Way for

An Effective Extension Program

"COMING into Lenoir County, North Carolina, which had had no home demonstration work in 18 years was almost like beginning from the very first", writes Mary Swann, home demonstration agent. "In a very short time, however," she continues, "adults in the various rural communities were expressing an interest in having something worth while offered not only to their boys and girls of 4-H club age who were in school but to that group of older boys and girls who were out of high school."

The home demonstration agent, aside from having a very definite interest in these boys and girls, was feeling the need for trained leaders to assist with 4-H club work, particularly among the younger girls. An organization with these older girls and boys seemed to offer a possible solution to several problems. At a meeting in a single community attended by men, women, boys, and girls, as well as the farm and home agents, a group of the boys and girls met after the regular meeting and elected a temporary chairman. With this as a beginning, a county service club of approximately 50 members has been organized and functioning for nearly a year.

The membership is almost evenly divided with boys and girls. A few very young married couples are members. Practically all are high-school graduates, a number having had 1 or 2 years in college. Membership is not limited to those who have been 4-H club members before, as 4-H club work is relatively new, especially with the girls.

Programs for the regular monthly meetings, held in the evening in order that all may attend, are planned by a committee selected from the membership. The programs this year have included the following discussions, either round table or by some leader in that particular field: Food selection, radio programs, etiquette, clothing selection, personality, soil-conservation program, keeping accounts, banking, organization, leisure time, home beautification, and family co-partnership. In addition to the business meeting and regular program, some recreation feature is enjoyed, and light refreshments are usually served at each meeting.

Already, several valuable leaders for 4-H club girls have been selected from this group, and others show promise of making real leaders a little later. Some of the service club girls have carried definite projects this year, but it has not been a requirement. It has been thought by the farm and home agent that group activity along worth-while lines which tends to broaden the vision and interests of the boys and girls is the principal aim. Of course individual projects are encouraged and assistance given to those who have time for both.

Attendance at district and State meetings has lent interest to the group within the county. A contribution was made to a State-wide loan fund for girls and two delegates sent to the State 4-H short course. More and more this group is fitting itself into the life and activity of regular 4-H club work and other community organizations.

South Carolina County Sells Hogs F. O. B.

"The production of hogs as a cash crop has made fair progress in Sumter County, S. C., since demonstration feeding was started in 1928 showing farmers that hogs could be produced at a profit on many of the farms, contrary to the general belief at that time", reports J. M. Eleazer, county agent.

Until the first of May 1936, the method of selling was the same as that which prevails all over this section of the country. The county agent lists the hogs ready for sale, and when he has enough to fill one or more cars the hogs are marked and shipped to Richmond, Va., in cooperative carlots. There each man's hogs are segregated and sold on their merit. The new marketing plan developed calls for a different procedure which County Agent Eleazer describes as follows:

"We have been trying to work out a method of f. o. b. sales for Sumter hogs because we felt that such a system of selling would have several advantages. The first advantage would be the educa-

tional value. For the farmer to bring his hogs in and see them graded and sold would teach him the sort of hogs to have in order to get the best price. Then if he were not satisfied with the price offered, he could take them back home, for they would still be his hogs.

"In the second place, the shipper gets his money on the spot without having to wait a week or 10 days for it. Drift is saved, and there are no shipping death losses.

"We were able to arrange for our first f. o. b. sale early in May 1936 and have had five satisfactory sales up to the present. We arranged with a reputable buyer to take all of our hogs right here at Sumter at 1 cent under the Richmond market. We get the day's market reports in from Richmond by wire on the morning of the sale, and the price we get is automatically fixed at a cent under that on all grades. So our chief problem is to watch grading and see that it is accurately done. When that is done we figure that our folks are getting the full value of their hogs and possibly a little more than if we consigned them as before.

"We use the city abattoir scales and pens, for which the buyer pays a small fee per hog.

"The buyer makes satisfactory local financial arrangements through our Farmers' Exchange, which writes the farmer his check on the spot. I think every farmer is pleased with this method of selling. We save freight, drift, dead hogs in transit, and stockyard commissions. This with us amounts to a cent or more per pound when we consign hogs to the packers or to commission houses.

"As I see it, the important thing we shall have to watch to make this method of selling continue to prove satisfactory is the grading of the hogs. When that is done our method of selling seems more satisfactory than auction selling or consigning."

Consumer Information

Sources of Information on Consumer Education and Organization is the title of a recent publication of the Consumers' Counsel Division of the A. A. A. It is listed as Consumers' Counsel Series, No. 1. This pamphlet describes the Federal Government agencies performing consumer services, the nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations, and gives suggestions for consumer study courses. A limited free distribution will be made upon request as long as the supply lasts.

Director's Letter

Ties in New and Old Programs



THE folder illustrated, printed in black and white, with the arresting title, "You're Barred if Your Land Is Acid", contains a letter from the Director of Extension, H. W. Mumford, to the farmers in Illinois, telling them how the good extension practice of using limestone on acid soil would enable them to cooperate in the new soil-conservation program by growing clover or alfalfa.

This coordinating of the objectives of the regular extension program with the recommended practices of the soil conservation program is strengthening both and giving the farmer a unified picture of the national agricultural policy.

More than 198,000 copies of this timely and attractive folder have been distributed through the county agents, and it is planned eventually to get one into the hands of practically every one of the State's 214,000 farmers.

New and Revised Film Strips Ready

SIX new film strips have been completed by the Division of Cooperative Extension in cooperation with the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Extension Service, and the Forest Service. They may be purchased at the prices indicated from Dewey & Dewey, Kenosha, Wis., after first obtaining authorization from the United States Department of Agriculture. Blanks for this purpose will be supplied upon request to the Division of Cooperative Extension. The new film strips are as follows:

Series 374. *Pink Bollworm Control in Florida*.—Illustrates the work being carried on in Florida to eradicate wild cotton in order to exterminate the pink bollworm. 47 frames, 50 cents.

Series 393. *Farm-Forestry Extension in the United States*.—Illustrates briefly several of the more important phases of farm forestry work conducted by State extension foresters and county agents. 69 frames, 80 cents.

Series 399. *Insects—Their Growth and Structure*.—This film strip is made up entirely of drawings to show the growth and development of insects, the external

anatomy, and in general the internal anatomy. 44 frames, 50 cents.

Series 404. *The Housefly and Its Control*.—Supplements Farmers' Bulletins 1734 and 1408, and illustrates the life history and the common breeding places of houseflies and methods of control such as elimination of breeding places and the use of traps, house screens, and sprays. 35 frames, 50 cents.

Series 407. *The Hessian Fly and Its Control*.—Supplements Farmers' Bulletin 1627, *The Hessian Fly and How Losses From It Can Be Avoided*; and illustrates the life history and habits of the Hessian fly and recommended control measures. 38 frames, 50 cents.

Series 411. *Home Demonstration Work—Financing, Organization, and Methods*.—Illustrates how home-demonstration agents throughout the United States carry on their work with rural people; how the work is financed by Federal, State, and county funds; how it is organized; how volunteer leaders aid in teaching. 42 frames, 50 cents.

This series was prepared to be shown at the Third Triennial Conference of the

Associated Country Women of the World Washington, D. C., June 1936.

The following 8 series were revised:

Series 215. *Market Classes of Mules*.—Supplements F. B. 1341, *Mule Production*. 29 frames, 50 cents.

Series 377. *Breeds of Dairy Cattle*.—Supplements F. B. 1443, *Dairy Cattle Breeds*; and illustrates the characteristics of the recognized dairy breeds, and presents outstanding individuals of each breed. 47 frames, 50 cents. This film strip supersedes series 255.

Series 383. *Red Clover Production*.—Supplements F. B. 1339, *Red Clover Culture*, and Leaflet 110, *Why Red Clover Fails*; and illustrates the principal causes of clover failure and how to remedy them. 31 frames, 50 cents. This film strip supersedes series 196.

Series 400. *Apple Outlook Charts, 1936*.—The series shows selected charts prepared by the Outlook Committee of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. 54 frames, 65 cents. This film strip supersedes series 312.

Series 401. *The Cooperative Bull Association*.—The series covers the organization, operation, and results of the Cooperative Bull Association, and illustrates the importance of using only high-class registered bulls. 38 frames, 50 cents. This film strip supersedes series 163.

Series 402. *Citrus Fruit Outlook Charts, 1936*.—The series shows selected charts prepared by the Outlook Committee of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. 48 frames, 50 cents. This film strip supersedes series 329.

Series 403. *Flue-cured Tobacco Outlook Charts, 1936*.—The series shows selected charts prepared by the Outlook Committee of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. 30 frames, 50 cents. This film strip supersedes series 308.

Series 405. *Horse Bots and How to Fight Them*.—Supplements F. B. 1503, *The Horse Bots and Their Control*. It is intended for extension workers to give horse owners a better idea of horse bots and to encourage the adoption of effective methods for reducing the losses caused by these bots. 39 frames, 50 cents. This film strip supersedes series 205.

Some Show

More than 700,000 persons saw educational films supplied to about 650 farm, school, church, and civic organizations by the visual instruction service of Iowa State College during the 12 months ending June 30, 1936.

A Busy Day

Two Aroostook County, Maine, home demonstration agents, Lucy Farrington and Mrs. Elizabeth Haskell, in response to a request from Fort Kent for instruction in canning veal, agreed, on the condition that the veal be provided by local people. That condition was more than satisfied, Mrs. Haskell says, when a 250-pound, 9-month-old animal "in toto", was provided. When they had finished at 9:30 that evening, an inventory showed 15 cans of steak, 25 cans of roast, 56 cans of meat for meat pies, and 20 cans of soup. Eighteen cans of strawberries and 76 cans of rhubarb, presumably canned during spare moments that day, also appeared in the final check up. So ended a day of what may properly be called "practical instruction", with the agents' reputation for resourcefulness in no way diminished.

Increases

Tennessee has the largest enrollment of women and girls in home demonstration work and 4-H clubs in the history of extension work in that State. For 1936 the figures totaled 52,687, with 25,281 girls in 4-H clubs. In 1935 there were 14,442 girls and 17,977 women in extension organizations.

Trees a' Growin'

Tree seedlings, 26,150,197 of them, were distributed to farmers in the United States for planting under the provisions of the Clarke-McNary forestry law. New York with 4,600,000 trees planted and Georgia with 3,110,500 trees led all the States under this Federal-State cooperative agreement.

Leadership Award

Outstanding leadership activities in 4-H club work in Sedgwick County, Kans., were rewarded by a 2-000-mile "good will" tour. The trip carried the four winners through Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, and Kansas, where, in each town visited, they were guests of honor. Among the more interesting visits were those to 4-H club groups in the four States. The winners brought back new ideas, and had a complete booth at a local exhibit

in which to display the pictorial memories of their trip. Local cooperation financed the trip, which attracted attention to Sedgwick County and to 4-H club work at every stop made in the four States.

AMONG OURSELVES

HAROLD L. HARRIS, formerly assistant extension editor and acting editor since the resignation of W. P. Kirkwood, has been made editor for the department of agriculture of the University of Minnesota.

THE NEWLY elected commissioner of agriculture for the State of North Carolina, W. Kerr Scott, was for a number of years county agent in his home county of Alamance.

GLENN WATERHOUSE, assistant State club leader, and Woodbridge Metcalf, extension forester, in California, represented the United States in the recent Olympics which were held in Germany. They were skipper and crew, respectively, of the star boat entry, the "Three Star Two."

MRS. KATHRYN VAN AKEN BURNS, Illinois State leader of home-economics extension work, was recently named president of the American Home Economics Association at its annual convention in Seattle. Mrs. Burns is the first extension worker to be elected to this position.

THE NEWLY ORGANIZED Louisiana Association of County Agents has elected B. B. Jones, of Orleans Parish, president; Irvin J. Heath, of East Baton Rouge, vice president; and L. W. Bergeron, of St. Bernard, secretary-treasurer. The association will affiliate with the national organization, and will support programs designed to improve county agent work and relationships.

Radio

Ohio reports that 46 agents, men and women, in 33 counties are broadcasting regular scheduled programs over 9 commercial radio stations. Sixteen out of 22 commercial stations in the State are cooperating in some phase of extension broadcasting.

First in Rural Electrification

"New Hampshire leads all other States in the percentage of farms electrified", says W. T. Ackerman, extension engineer at the University of New Hampshire. "Occupants of nearly 70 percent of all farmhouses in New Hampshire are enjoying the advantages which electricity offers. We feel that this has been accomplished as a result of certain carefully laid plans, and most of all by active cooperation between the Extension Service, the power companies, and the farmers." This is the eleventh year of active rural electrification in New Hampshire.

Soil Conservation

More than 17,000 farm operators and owners are cooperating in the demonstration areas established by the Soil Conservation Service. About 2,500,000 acres are included in these privately controlled areas. The 150 areas range in size from 25,000 to 100,000 acres. Twenty thousand miles of terraces have been constructed, and more than 280,000 acres are covered by strip-farming practices. On some farms as many as 30 different methods of land treatment and utilization have been demonstrated.

Camp in New Mexico

In New Mexico, where running water is an event, 106 4-H boys and girls of Hidalgo and Luna Counties had the time of their lives at Cave Creek at the bicounty 4-H encampment, where they had water deep enough to swim in.

Mrs. Olive B. Cruse, district extension agent, and county agents Paul Brown and Frank Wayne directed the camp, which included the usual activities and closed with a candle-lighting ceremony at which candles were lighted from one that had been used at the National 4-H Club camp at Washington.

FINISH THE JOB

STEP BACK and survey extension work in your county over a period of years, and you will see that no extension job is finished until it is well recorded. It has been said that extension teaching involves four steps: First, a sound program arrived at after careful analysis of situations, needs, and possibilities; second, an intelligent plan of action; third, a systematic and patient execution of the plan; and, fourth, a definite provision for determining and recording accomplishment.

IT IS this fourth step in extension teaching which faces us right now, the responsibility for determining and recording accomplishment. The annual report is a permanent record of extension work in the county, the State, and the Nation. It contains materials of permanent record value which would be lost if left in the files unsummarized and unrecorded.

MORE than 8,000 extension workers will send annual reports to Washington this fall. They will be used in reports to Congress, in articles on extension work by professional writers, and in planning the future national program for the Extension Service. They will be studied, summarized, and indexed for ready reference. Material from these reports will be made available

to the field workers through the columns of the Extension Service Review and abstracts from reports on significant phases of extension work

AFTER years of summarizing and interpreting these reports of county and State agents, M. C. Wilson has listed six principles with which he believes every annual report should conform. "A good narrative report", says Mr. Wilson, "should enable the reader to obtain a comprehensive picture of: First, what was attempted, or the program as outlined at the beginning of the year; second, how the work was carried on, or the teaching methods employed; third, the cooperation obtained from other extension workers, rural people, commercial interests, and other public agencies; fourth, definite accomplishments supported by objective evidence; fifth, significance of the year's progress and accomplishments in terms of better agriculture and better homemaking; sixth, how next year's work can be strengthened and improved in the light of the current year's experience."

THE REPORT must be worthy of the work done. Until the accomplishments are determined and recorded, the job is only partially done. Now is the time to finish up the job.

QUESTIONS *on* *Agricultural Conservation*

ARE EASIER TO ANSWER WITH
THESE HELPS

PUBLICATIONS

Farm Buying and Industrial Recovery, G-58.

Unshackling Our Export Trade, G-57.

Saving the Soil, G-53.

Making the Most of the Home Market, G-56.

Is Soil Conservation the Answer to the Farm Problem? C. D. P. No. 1.

Agricultural Imports—Their Significance to American Farmers.

VISUAL AIDS

Wall Charts on Conservation, Crop Yields, Farm Income, and Purchasing Power.

Picture Catalog on Erosion and Soil Conserving Crops.

Cartoons for Use in Mimeographed Letters and Inserts.

Suggestions for State and County Exhibits.

Layouts for Poster Bulletins.

Suggestions for Mimeographed Inserts.

THIS material was prepared primarily for extension and teaching use by the A. A. A. Extension workers may procure copies from the

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WASHINGTON, D. C.



ON VISITS



AT MEETINGS



IN THE MAIL